

# NEWSLETTER



## VBC 2025

Hello Brothers and Sisters,

I hope this message finds you well. It's been some time since my last newsletter, and I am excited to share with you all the amazing ways Jesus

Christ has been moving in my life! I want to share what God has done for me this past summer to present.

### Winter Programs

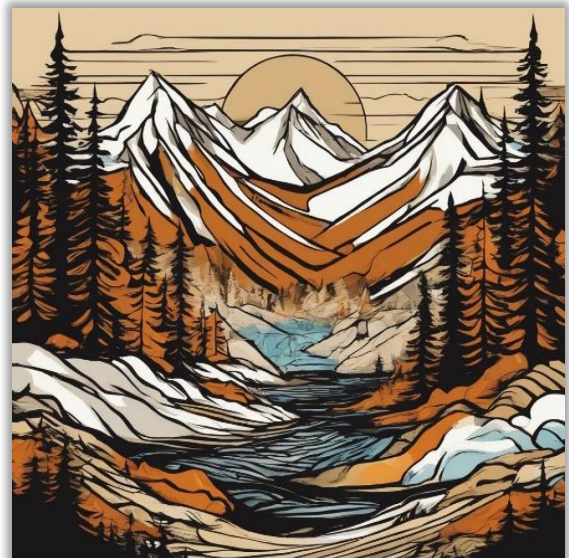
Upon my return from spending the holidays with my family in the lower 48, I found the program team at Victory Bible Camp gearing up to kick off Winter Blitz and Ice Scape, our winter programs for the youth and teenagers. The winter activities were three days long, allowing the campers to get away with friends and make new ones making fun memories doing outdoor and indoor activities! The chapels spiritually encouraged and challenged

the campers to grow in their faith in Jesus Christ as they grow in the word of God.

There were also opportunities for the campers to meet in small groups for devotion/cabin discussions to ask questions and reflect on all that they have heard. Overall, the winter activities were a success, allowing the children to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ while having fun!

### Victory Ministries Staff & Board Retreat

In February, Victory Ministries of Alaska hosted a retreat for the camp staff and board members from Camp Li-Wa and Victory Bible Camp at Camp Maranatha in Big Lake, AK. It was truly heartwarming to be surrounded by Brothers and Sisters in Christ coming together because of Christian camp ministry. The retreat felt like a warm and cozy family reunion, where we shared laughter, stories of praise, struggles, and prayed and worshiped together in Spirit to our God.



*Summer  
Theme:*

**JOIN THE  
KING'S  
TABLE**

**2 Samuel 9**

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The small dining hall conversations were a highlight for me. I made sure to sit with different staff members and board members from both camps. Last year, 2024, the staff would find little slips of paper on the table with fun suggestions, "Share a short embarrassing moment in your life and how you reacted to the situation?"

Here a short story I shared with the staff:

Back in 2009, after devouring a Subway sandwich at a gas station for lunch, I hopped into my trusty old 95 Toyota 4-Runner feeling content with my meal. I cruised down the road, tunes blaring from the speakers, I couldn't shake the feeling that something was off. It suddenly hit me – I had forgotten my retainer, the one thing I needed to wear after getting my braces off. Panicked, I made a quick U-turn, raced back, and dove into the dumpster to find my retainer wrapped in a crumpled plastic sandwich wrapper. Thankfully, it was still there, safe and sound. I snatched the retainer and hoisted myself out of the garbage. Clutching the treasure, I had salvaged, I noticed the bewildered looks on the faces of the people in the room. I could almost hear their thoughts, wondering why I would rummage through trash. I wanted to crack a joke to lighten the mood, but instead, I simply gazed back at them, silently answering their unspoken question with my eyes. With a shrug, I made my way to the exit and left without uttering a word. It was definitely a cringe worthy moment in my young life.

Ah, good times, lol...

Both camps for Victory Ministries of Alaska, Camp Li-Wa and Victory Bible Camp, were able to enjoy a series of activities, games, team-building exercises, worship sessions, and listen to different speakers from Alaska Bible College to a local church in the valley of Palmer.

The retreat was a wellspring of motivation and rejuvenation for my spirit. It served as a reflection of the countless blessings that God has bestowed upon me and worked through me. Paring ways at the end of the retreat is always a bittersweet, knowing that it would be whole year before I would reunite with everyone. Nevertheless, these moments are treasures in my life, reminding me of the boundless joy that awaits me in God's presence at the heavenly banquet alongside me fellow believers. I look forward to the day when farewells will be a thing of the past among cherished ones.

### **Guest Retreats**

Over two thousand people from the Spring of 2024 to the Summer of 2025 have been on the campgrounds of Victory Bible Camp, not including campers, summer staff, work teams, and volunteers.

The retreat groups that come to Victory Bible Camp are diverse, varying people of all ages from different churches, ministries, and public schools. I have been privileged to assist many of these groups for years. I serve these groups by creating contracts, sending emails and making phone calls, coordinating logistics for retreat leaders, setting up and tearing down areas of usage, and hosting their events. What I enjoy about being the Guest Services Coordinator is having fellowship, giving words of affirmation, and praying for the group's lives and ministry while they are here at Victory Bible Camp.

It is truly inspiring to witness how God works through the leaders of each retreat pouring into the lives of the people under their care. The Holy Spirit has moved powerfully, touching the hearts of all who attend Victory Bible Camp – men women, and children alike. Many made the life-changing decision to surrender to Christ, confessing and repenting of their sins and placing their faith in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior!

There are groups that have baptized members within their congregation at Shallow Lake on VBC's property and within doors during the winter months. It's always a joyous occasion to witness brothers and sisters publicly declaring their faith and commitment to Christ!

### **Blessings** (Vehicle)

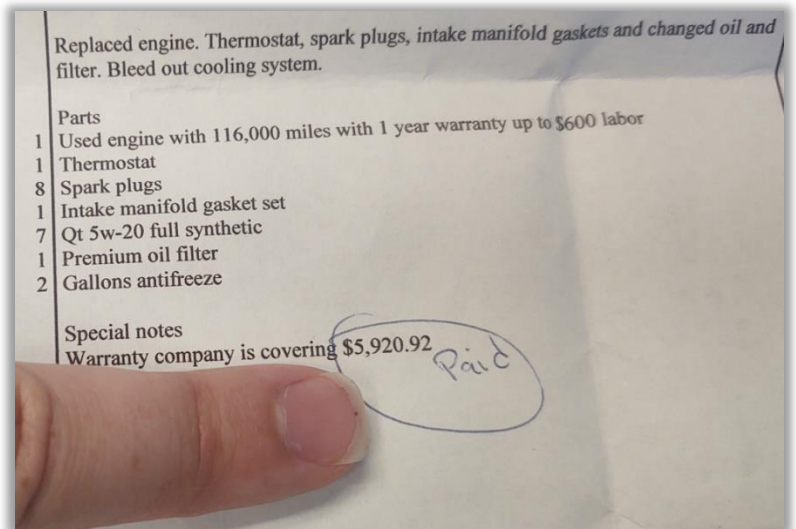
In late April, 2023, I traded in my Hyundai Sonata for a truck. I'm truly grateful to God for enabling me to secure a third-party vehicle warranty. Just two weeks into owning my new vehicle, it began to show some issues. Thankfully, I reached out to a wonderful Brother in Christ, an auto mechanic who runs a shop near Victory Bible Camp. He quickly diagnosed the problem: the timing chain in my truck was malfunctioning.

The beginning of 2024, Jarred was able to contact the warranty company, but initially, they claimed they wouldn't cover the necessary repairs. A week later, they mentioned that they would be sending one of their own inspectors to check out the truck's engine upon receiving a message from Jarred:

"Checked engine runs rough and makes noise. Found cylinder #3 misfire and low compression. Tear down for diagnosis. Need engine replaced."

The inspector arrived to examine the vehicle and confirmed that the warranty would cover the expenses.

Below, you'll find a picture of the invoice:

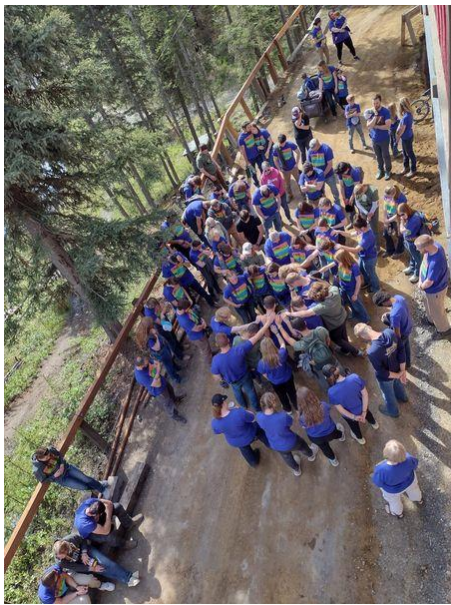


In case you are not able to read the print within the picture, the warranty company covered **\$5,920.92!**

Praise God for how He covered the cost! God used my brother in Christ to deal with the warranty company, purchase the parts, and the hours, over twenty-nine, to work and fix my truck. I am grateful; Thanks Jarred for all your hard work!

### **Blessings** (Support)

Thank you all for being a blessing by providing financial support and prayers. I have 50% of the support needed to meet the requirements for a salaried position in Alaska. Your monthly or one-time contributions help me stay at full capacity and serve wholeheartedly. Your generosity is truly appreciated!



I am truly grateful for the love and commitment shown by everyone who has contributed to Victory Ministries, allowing me to serve at Victory Bible Camp. I kindly ask you to share this newsletter with your church, family, friends, and co-

workers, so I can continue fulfilling my role as a salaried employee without any restrictions on hours.

## Summer

Because I do not lead the Venture program anymore, it brings the question: **Steven, what do you do during the summer?**

During the summer, I work in the administration office, preparing contracts, writing emails, and following up with groups for the upcoming fall. I also lead the morning devotionals for the Work Teams and lead Bible Studies during the evenings when asked.

God has blessed me to do the same for this summer of 2025. I will be leading devotionals as well as preaching at Mendeltna Community Chapel and Glacier View Bible Church. I am excited and honored!

## First Week of June

Hockey Ministries International (HMI) shares The Good News of Jesus Christ with kids through hockey. Each summer since I have been here at Victory Bible Camp, HMI comes on our first week of summer camp to use our facility to run their hockey camp. There is about 90 people who attended the hockey camp in June.

Many children have come to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and re-dedicated their lives to Him through this camp. God does not just use our summer programs here at Victory Bible Camp but also other Christian ministries.

Below I will provide a few testimonies that a leader provided me after their hockey camp:

### Testimonies from Coaches & Cabin Counselors:

“Two ice coaches shared how one camper came the second night after chapel and asked for a Bible for his dad.”

“I noticed, after the huddle, one camper was making notes in his book. He stayed after to receive Christ during the first altar call.”

“20 decisions from the campers accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior.”

The Holy Spirit changed many lives by using HMI to share the Truth of Jesus Christ to those young kids. I am looking forward to seeing them again this summer, 2025!

## Victory's Summer Staff

The five summer programs that we have to offer here at Victory Bible Camp: Alpine, Ranch, S.A.L.T., Venture, and Wilderness varies to the ages of the campers each week. We had children as young as eight years old to seventeen years old.

The Lord has provided us with some great summer staff counselors and leadership. Their faithfulness and zeal for serving Jesus Christ were and are evident to all. I heard many of their testimonies during the prayer and praise worship sessions last summer. How the Holy Spirit convicted campers with hearts of stone to become hearts of flesh; born again! Also, campers rededicating their lives as obedient followers of Jesus Christ was comforting.



However, though I and many others heard the testimonies of the lost coming to know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, we also heard stories of how many denied The Gospel for various reasons. It was sad knowing the kids were leaving the same way when they first arrived here at Victory Bible Camp, with no hope in the eternal life that Jesus Christ gives.

All we can do is pray that God will call those children to Himself, and they will come to accept the gift of grace that Jesus Christ has provided to man by his life, death, resurrection, and ascension.

Though numbers do not define a church or ministry, when it comes to baptisms, membership, rededications, or salvation, it does encourage the Body of Christ to see how our God is furthering His kingdom. The numbers below are the information that the Victory Staff has received from our summer staff at this time:

#### **VBC – Summer 2024**

There were 1,015 campers who came to Victory Bible Camp that summer. Though I do not know the statistics for how many campers were saved or rededicated their lives, I know God used my brothers and sisters to preach, teach, and serve the campers.

Last summer's theme was Victory In Jesus, which focuses on the verse of 1 Cor. 15:57.

I was able to teach within the epistle of 1 Corinthians 15 to the adults how Paul had to reassure the church of Corinth that Jesus Christ did rise from the dead, conquered death and sin, and provided a live hope to His disciples for the day of glorification with new resurrected

bodies as Christ victors because He, Jesus Christ, is the Victor!

#### **ABC (Alaska Bible College)**

While serving at VBC, I have been taking courses at Alaska Bible College during the Fall and Spring semesters of 2024-2025.

The courses I have taken were: Old Testament Survey I & II, Introduction to Biblical Living, and Apologetics.

I plan to take New Testament Survey this fall semester.

I know this will be a humbling time as I go through the New Testament, re-learning what I have learned in the past and how the Holy Spirit will make known things within God's Word that I have missed or forgotten.





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## Denomination

Non-Denominational

## Our Mission

We exist to evangelize and disciple children, youth, and adults in Alaska for Jesus Christ through Christian Camping.

## Foundational Scripture

2 Cor. 5:20 "Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God."

Thank you for your prayers, love, and financial support. By God's grace, He allows me to be here at Victory Bible Camp to use my skills, time, and spiritual gifts to invest in the lives of those who come to VBC and within the community of Glacier View throughout the year.

# Prayer

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## **Financial Support:**

- Pray that God will allow me to raise the percentage to faithfully serve at VBC.

## **Community, Fellowship, and Unity:**

- Pray that God will help me to love and lift others in the community as I live amongst the VBC Staff in unity.

## **Guest Services:**

- Pray that God will help me to engage with the guest groups with love, kindness, and patience so my words and actions will bring honor to Jesus Christ as the groups can evangelize and disciple the men and women within their groups.

## **Maturity:**

- Pray that God will help me keep in step with the Holy Spirit and grow in my faith and relationship with Jesus Christ.

## **Ministry:**

- Pray that God will protect the Victory Staff and me from the things of this world, our flesh, and Satan.

- Pray that God will help us to put and keep His armor on while we boldly proclaim The Good News to all He puts in our lives.

## **Passion:**

- Pray that God will help me to preach and teach others to grow more in their relationship with Jesus Christ while I grow in my relation with my Lord and Savior.

## **Relationship:**

- Pray that God will continue to build relationships for the Victory Staff, people in the Glacier View community, and our guest groups.

## **Rest:**

- Pray that God will provide the physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual health needed to serve year-round at VBC so I may have rest and peace.

## **Sanctification:**

- Pray that God will help me to become more like Him.  
- Pray that God will allow me to be meek and humble.  
- Pray that God will use me in mighty ways to do His will and not my own.

## **Wisdom & Discernment:**

### **Use the time that I have to glorify Christ:**

- Serving guest groups/retreats before arrival, while on the campground, and after they leave.

- To study and grow in understanding of God's Word while going to Alaska Bible College.

- To study and use my spiritual gift of teaching to teach/preaching at GlacierView Bible Church, Mendeltna Community Church, and The OutPost program class at VBC this winter.